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EDITORIAL NOTES AND COMMENT

RUDYARD KIPLING'S RECESSIONAL

Where "Old Glory" Floats Today—Socialist
Journals of Austria—Haverhill Social
Democrat—Festival Aftermath
—Boers and British

Dollar-and-a-Half Prosperity

With all your prosperity, the real average American is a man struggling to support a family on a dollar and a half a day.

It is to be hoped that the Boers will bore well and hurl the British back over the Transvaal line (if they ever get there) with greater speed than they went. Hurrah for Oom Paul, the Boers and the South African republic!

"Let us keep sacred ('lest we forget') this great fabric of government that dispenses its blessings equally over all," said McKinley. The slaves yelled themselves hoarse and the paper that reported him had an editorial on "The Rights of Citizens."

Mr. Cleveland, who does not believe in "the use of power in the extension of American institutions," believed in the use of power in the extension of corporate interests in 1894—that is, he believed in it after he sobered up and found Olney had taken the initiative.

Socialists who know Comrade Frank Gessner, of Pittsburg, Pa., will learn with sorrow of the death of his only child, Mary Eliza Gessner, which occurred October 4. The blow is a severe one to Comrade Gessner, who lost his wife only last February.

Dr. J. N. Kinnan of Whiting, Kas., in renewing his subscription to the Herald, says he is 55 years old, has never voted the Socialist ticket, but is now a full-fledged Socialist, and will vote the Social Democratic party ticket next year. And that is the right thing to do, doctor. Your example is a good one for the man with the hoe and the tin bucket.

We begin this week the publication of Comrade Isador Ladoff's "My Exile in Siberia," and also present the readers of the Herald with a picture of the writer. The sketch will prove greatly interesting to those acquainted with Comrade Ladoff's contributions to this paper, and constitutes one more graphic chapter in the struggle of Russian democracy with despotism.

Last week there came to our table the first number of the Haverhill Social Democrat, bearing encouraging reports of progress in Massachusetts and a good showing of contributed and selected articles. We welcome the Social Democrat, which had really become a necessity to successful propaganda in Haverhill, and wish for it an abundant success as an exponent of Socialism.

If all the socialist journals of Austria that are printed in the German language were to be published on the same day it would make an issue of 276,000 numbers. The Bohemian journals have a circulation of 144,000 numbers. There are thirty-two German socialist journals, one of which is a daily. The Bohemians publish nineteen different periodicals, and the Poles possess three newspapers and one magazine.

Oberlin M. Carter, the ex-captain of the army and robber who defrauded the government out of \$2,000,000, has paid his fine of \$5,000. This little transaction developed the fact that Carter has a "substantial balance in a prominent New York bank." Money belonging to the people, every dollar of it, but which a republican administration will kindly allow him to retain for his private use when he comes out of prison.

In one place during his stop-over in Chicago McKinley told some workmen that his prayer was that they would enjoy employment at good wages and congratulated them on the "great prosperity they were enjoying." At another place he told the manufacturers they were "overdoing prosperity" and "producing more than there was a market for." Of course he was joking in both instances, but the latter will be seen to be something more than a joke ere long.

"Old Glory" today floats over slaves in Cuba; it floats over a despicable contract-labor system in Hawaii; in the Philippines it floats over a crime against human rights, and in the Sulu archipelago it floats over and protects a brutal system of slavery and a degrading form of polygamy. At home it floats over millions of unthinking, cowardly slaves and insolent, bullying patriots prating of

liberty and the blessings of our great civilization. "The star-spangled banner—how long will it wave o'er the land of the fool and the home of the slave?"

Pearl Hart has entered her protest against one feature of the present order of things, and the force and reasonableness of it cannot be denied. Pearl is the Arizona woman who robbed a stage some time ago. She was put in jail at Tucson to await trial and decided, to break out, which she did successfully, because, as she declared a few days before, "I will never submit to be tried under the laws neither I nor my sex had a voice in making."

There is an official connected with the public schools of Chicago who would have us believe that the favorite poem with all classes of pupils, even to "the children of the slums," is one beginning with this stuff:

God of our fathers, known of old—
Lord of our far-flung battle-line—
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

What it means the school officials are not agreed (nor nobody else), but it is supposed to be a holy "patriotic" aspiration; being set to taking music the children take to it (the music), and as the dear "children of the Ghetto" are more sadly in need of an official hymn than anything else, the mediaeval mind of officialdom would make that use of it. It is good music that catches the children and not the old "God of our fathers" with the "awful hand."

The supreme court of Illinois the other day admitted to the bar 150 more lawyers, all from Chicago. If the supreme court would only put hundreds of those previously admitted in the way of making a living the latter would be under greater obligation for the living than the admission. What different ideas the newly admitted will have in a year or two! In the meantime they might think over what a lawyer, Bolton Hall of New York, recently said about the law: "The law," he says, "is a machine for the production of costs and attorney fees. It is a game played by lawyers at the expense of the public. He takes his part in the game for the sake of an income, but he has no wish to spend his time in umpiring it."

FESTIVAL AFTERMATH

Carter Harrison of Chicago says it was all a political trick from start to finish. Anybody with half an eye for the jingo game knew that it would be.

The parade in which the president bore so conspicuous a part, with hat in hand, was one of the most monotonous affairs ever palmed off on a weary people.

The corporations that shifted the war tax onto the people and have compelled the jabbering fools to lick stamps for a year and a half, made notable displays of patriotic bunting—at the stamp-lickers' expense.

Picturesqueness is the thing aimed at in street pageantry, and in this regard the Chinamen outdid all the rest.

McKinley's stonecutter's union card will be preserved in a gold case and the "skates" are tickled all over.

The most grotesque spectacle of the week was McKinley climbing three flights of stairs to the bricklayers' hall, where he told a choice assemblage of trade union selects that "this reception pleases me more than any other." Pretty rough on the "others," by the way, but the grafters took it all in.

If, as Secretary of War Root told his Chicago audience, we are fighting in the Philippines only "a part of a single tribe occupying less than one-half of the single island of Luzon," and 65,000 Americans are required to cope with this feeble fraction, what would we do if a dozen of the 1,200 islands should take the field?

"I do not want you to establish a class, or to make an establishment against classes," said McKinley to the bricklayers. It makes no difference what Mr. McKinley "wants" on that line; the classes are made already and the man who comes to the working class with this belated advice is the pliant tool of the capitalist class.

The Birmingham (England) corporation has gone in for agriculture on an extensive scale. In connection with the sewage disposal of the city a farm has been laid out at a cost of £450,000, and extensions are now being carried out which will bring the capital expenditure up to a million pounds sterling. The extensions from an agricultural and farming aspect will be of an interesting character. Plans for the erection of various farm buildings have been passed, and arrangements made for the construction of roads to facilitate the gathering of produce and for the steam-plow cultivation of the land.

The Herald Leaflets are good for propaganda at 35 cents per hundred copies.

EUGENE V. DEBS ON PASSING EVENTS

THAT NEW YORK FUSION INCIDENT

Capitalistic Politicians Running the Independent Movement—Outlook for Social Democratic Party Very Bright—Massachusetts Campaign

Merlin's Clever Work on the Herald

The incident of our branches of Greater New York "fusing" with the Independent Labor party of that city was a mistake, to put it mildly, and I am glad our comrades awakened to the fact and corrected the error by withdrawing from the alliance before experiencing the harmful effects which must have followed. How our comrades in the East, who have among them some of the brightest lights in the party, could have been led into a situation in which they had everything to lose and nothing to gain, is not easy for me to understand, and I confess to having been greatly surprised when I heard of it.

The Independent Labor party, whatever its tendencies, is not a socialist party. The majority of its members are doubtless honest in their intentions, but they are misguided and they should be set right, not by giving their "independent party" the sanction of approval by uniting with it, but by pointing out the futility of their undertaking and showing them that their party is simply a middle-class movement, and as such is doomed to failure, and that the only true course for the members to pursue is to join the Social Democratic party and cast their votes for straight Socialism, the only possible means of emancipation for the working class. As long as they are not ready for such action they are not ripe for Socialistic affiliation, and only harm could come from joint action with them.

Subsequent developments have proved that the capitalist politician is to run the "independent party," and it is to be hoped that our comrades in New York and elsewhere will profit by the experience and hereafter stick uncompromisingly to party principles and party tactics and declarations.

It is extremely gratifying to contemplate the outlook of the Social Democratic party. The policy of the party in carrying forward its propaganda on a high plane and refraining from vituperation, however great the provocation, is bearing fruit, and opposition to the party in every form is melting away before its rapid march.

Another source of congratulation is the absolute harmony that prevails in the party. It is in the best sense a socialist party. There is no element of "bossism," no individual domination to menace its councils. Each comrade feels, and justly feels, that he is the equal of every other comrade, and this accounts for the fact that our members are united by hooks of steel and that they are inspired by unshakable confidence in the future.

That our party will make a creditable showing in the campaign this fall is a foregone conclusion. Wherever we have candidates in the field they will receive the united and enthusiastic support of our comrades.

The campaign in Massachusetts will be the central point of interest, and thousands will look eagerly for the returns from that state. The state election is to be followed by the city elections, and the indications are that our comrades will score victories that will still further stampede the capitalist parties of the "old Bay state."

The clean, capable and unimpeachable records of those previously elected have immeasurably strengthened the party, and with the earnest, unremitting and united energy which our comrades are putting into the campaign, it is safe to predict that Massachusetts will roll up a Socialist vote that will flash around the world.

The clever work of "Merlin" in prose and in verse is making for that brilliant writer an enviable reputation. His weekly "Mixture" is read with profit and delight by thousands. There is help and inspiration in his pen, and the Herald is fortunate in having him for a regular contributor.

The Social Democratic party will present a solid front to the foe in 1900. St. Paul, Minn. Eugene V. Debs.

Progress in Massachusetts

A bird's-eye view of the Social Democratic movement in Massachusetts reveals that there are four counties in which great political activity and thorough organization exists. Essex county leads off with twelve branches; Plymouth follows close with eight, and two or three others in progress. Suffolk

county has six branches, and Worcester, which is just waking up, has six also. Middlesex comes next with five, and Norfolk has a vigorous and active branch in Quincy, which is working as hard and growing quite as fast as is consistent with a healthy and substantial development; and a little, brand-new branch at Avon, which it is to be hoped will follow the example of its big brother. In Bristol and Hampden counties we have obtained a foothold, and can work up a good movement just as soon as we can get around to it.

Within the last three weeks seven new branches have been organized, making a total of forty-two in the state—which is not so bad for a year's work, considering that it is always the first step which costs. The new branches are at Merriam, Lawrence, Marlborough, Plymouth, Warren, North Brookfield and Avon.

In all, thirty-two Social Democratic candidates for representative have been nominated in Massachusetts to date.—Haverhill Social Democrat.

Labor-Saving Machinery

A patent has been granted to William and John Shafer of Wheeling, W. Va., for a new process of tin-plate manufacture, by which it is claimed a great saving can be secured of both cost and time as compared with the prevailing methods of manufacture.

Coal men throughout the country are watching with interest a coal channeling machine recently patented by a Bellaire (Ohio) man, for which it is claimed that it combines the qualities of speed, facility of operation and durability.

In the big sewers being dug in Chicago a machine is boring sewers forty feet beneath the surface of the streets faster than three gangs of bricklayers can lay the brick to inclose the sewer. The machine requires only a 100-horsepower engine, and its work is wholly automatic from the moving of itself forward as the excavation is completed in front to the hauling away of the earth and dumping it on the outside.

New Marvel of Telegraphy

A wonderful method of quick telegraphy has been discovered by two Hungarian engineers, Armin D. Bell and Joseph Virag, which enables the sending of nearly a hundred thousand words an hour.

The method has just been tested on the telegraph lines from Buda-Pesth to Berlin. Representatives of the German Ministry of Commerce viewed the apparatus working in Berlin, while a delegate from the French government and a representative of an American cable company, together with Hungarian officials, inspected the working of the invention in Buda-Pesth.

A number of telegrams were exchanged between Buda-Pesth and Berlin, and it was found that the average rate of wiring with the new apparatus was twenty-two words a second, giving 1,320 a minute and over 79,000 an hour. These results were witnessed and testified to by experts.

The new apparatus is a marvel of ingenuity. Messages are first perforated on a slip of paper. These signs are then transmitted with lightning speed over the wires, and are received as photographs at the other end, where they can be read and quickly prepared for delivery.

Book Notices

We have received a thirty-page pamphlet published by Chas. H. Kerr & Co., price five cents, entitled "The Evolution of the Class Struggle," by William H. Noyes.

This booklet is timely. The author shows the weakness of the Fabian policy, and the fallacy of expecting a dominant class to surrender their economic advantages and abdicate from motives of philanthropy.

"The Utopianist," he says, "fails to see that a considerable part of society, and that the dominant class, have an interest in keeping things as they are, and as long as they have the power they will resist any attempt at change."

This booklet is so simple in diction that the novice will clearly grasp the historical import of the class struggle and that in our midst two great classes are now warring with each other.

Kerr & Co. also publish in this five-cent booklet series "Woman and the Social Question," by May Wood Simons.

The author calls attention to the past and present economic position of woman; that the perfection of machinery minimizes the physical strength requirements, and therefore her intense competition with man is a phenomenon of the present capitalist system which injures not only the women but the men. A good book for women, especially those who are looking for a "ketch" (marriageable men) as a life preserver, and those men especially who groan, grumble and complain that women take their positions when they should be at home.

LABOR AND PROGRESS IN A BUSY WORLD

THE MARCH OF MUNICIPALISM

Public Pawnshops in Germany—Municipalism Lowers Prices—Vorwaerts Financial Statement—The Free Rural Mail Delivery in Wisconsin

Unchanged Situation in Idaho

Berlin will assume control of all street-car lines within the city.

The tendency in British cities is to lower prices instead of making municipal industries a source of profits.

The population of the South African republic consists of 63,000 Boers, 87,000 other whites called uitlanders, and 600,000 Kaffirs and Zulus.

Mayor Chase of Haverhill, Mass., claims as his year's record, reduction in the price of gas, abolition of grade crossings and the payment of higher wages to city employees.

In Germany the capital for carrying on the pawnshops by the municipal authorities is derived either from the city treasury or the city savings bank, which is usually operated in connection with the shops. The articles offered in pawn are valued by sworn appraisers.

So far this year Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor has issued 362 charters, including seven to city central bodies. These charters do not include those issued by national organizations.

The situation in Idaho is unchanged, 175 miners being still in prison, with no sign of being set free or brought to trial. According to President Boyce of the miners, the Demo-Pop governor, Steunenberg, is determined to disrupt every vestige of labor organization in Idaho.

Mr. Grant Allen is still in a precarious condition. The distinguished writer has been ailing for months, but the nature of his complaint at first eluded the doctors. Now, however, it has been localized, and it is hoped the disease may yield to treatment.

The decision of Manchester to municipalize the tramways of that city and to return to municipal ownership the lines to the Manchester Carriage Company, has drawn from the company an offer of £50,000 a year for the lines on a ten years' lease, instead of £23,333, which they pay now.

Speaking at a labor demonstration recently, Tom Mann of England announced that arrangements had been completed for issuing, on Oct. 27, a weekly newspaper for the Socialist and Trade Union movement, to be edited by himself and Ben Tillet, to be called the British Socialist News.

There is an animated controversy in San Francisco over the fact that the new city hall, planned to cost \$1,500,000, represents up to date a municipal investment of \$5,000,000, but is not completed. At the rate at which defective work is being discovered it looks as if the edifice may have to be almost entirely rebuilt.

It is surprising what reduction in prices a monopoly finds possible when its power is threatened. The English National Telephone company, which is now to have competition, has cut down its rates from \$50 to \$60 in provincial cities to \$16 a year, with a charge of a penny a call, which, it is estimated, will lower the price by half. Yet only recently it declared that no reduction was possible.

The cost of strikes and lockouts is becoming a serious item. According to the annual report of the labor department in Great Britain, 230,000 men lost 10,000,000 working days and won the day in one case out of five. In the last five years 60,000,000 working days have been sacrificed, representing a loss in wages to the amount of nearly £20,000,000. What a big strike fund that would have made!

The largest free rural mail delivery route of the United States is to be centered at Oconomowoc within thirty days. A marine free delivery on Fowler and Oconomowoc lakes will be established next summer. The route as proposed is twenty-five miles in length and is inhabited by 223 families, making it the most thickly populated route of this kind in existence in the United States. Service over the route will commence inside of thirty days, and possibly before Nov. 1.

The Vorwaerts has just published its financial statement for the past year, with other figures, showing a steady increase in the strength of the Socialist party. During the past twelve months five new Socialist newspapers have been founded, making the total number of the journals supporting the interests of the party seventy-three. The punishment sheet for the year shows that the total terms of the sentences of imprisonment passed on Socialists amounted to seventy-four years and one month, while fines were levied to the amount of 23,251 marks.

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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 1899.

Georgia a Slave State

Georgia is the only state that is crying for more convicts. This is not because it has rooms to let in its jails and penitentiaries, but because its system of selling prison labor makes convicts worth \$100 a head per annum. An Atlanta dispatch to the Macon Telegraph records a big boom in state convicts in connection with a curious transaction that recalls the days of slavery. It seems that Jim Smith has sold his total "holdings" of leased convicts to Jim English at a handsome profit. What sum he got for this "fine bunch of fifty able-bodied men" the Telegraph is unable to state, but we are assured it was a good price, and convicts of all kinds are "in strong demand." These men have been put to work in the Durham coal mines, where there are now 300 convicts, "and more are wanted if they can be had." While Mr. Smith has sold out his state convicts, he continues to work his misdemeanor convicts, which he hires from the Oglethorpe county commissioners at reduced rates on account of their short terms. He has about a hundred of these and wants as many more on his plantation. The activity in coal, iron and lumber has caused an unusual demand for this class of labor, and the present system of leasing the convicts seems to be generally successful. When the new law went into effect the lessees were paying only \$11 a head per annum for convicts, but when the latest bids were opened few of the convicts brought less than \$100. They seem to be profitable as chattels. The convict market is quoted firm, and the state of Georgia is fast becoming a more profitable slave state than it was before.

The "Insanity of Socialism"

A local Republican, in a burst of confidence the other night, reported a wonderful discovery he had made. "This Socialism," said he, "is only a mild form of insanity, and we will check it before it becomes violent."

If for men and women to work, for every one to have plenty of food and clothing; if to seek to destroy inequality in the opportunities to earn a livelihood; if to labor for the adoption of a system which will not degrade and enslave our women and our helpless children; if to work for a time when there shall no longer be extremes of rich and poor; when hatred and distrust, the children of competition, will give way to fraternity and confidence; when the bitterness engendered by race prejudices will be wiped out and the nations of the earth will live in peace together; when the sorrows and heartbreak of competitive strife will disappear and the contentment and mutual helpfulness of co-operative effort take their places; if, we say, to work for all this means insanity, then write us down insane and turn the United States into a lunatic asylum before another day goes by.

The indications are that the insanity of Socialism has almost reached the violent stage in America, and no power on earth, much less the local show of the Republican party, can check it.—Haverhill Social Democrat.

The Present Servitude

Comrade F. O. McCartney of Rockland, Mass., spoke at Warren on Tuesday, Oct. 3, to a fine audience. From his address the following extracts are taken: "I am accustomed to give expression to plain facts and will begin with the bald statement that the present wage system is a system of wage slavery, and that capitalism means the exploitation of labor; in other words, capitalism is robbery. A slave is a man who works for another and has nothing to say as to what he shall receive for his labor, and I submit that the mass of mankind are dependent on others for their living, and are working for others with little or nothing to say as to the proportion they shall receive of the product of their labor."

"Under the system of machinery, and the trust system there have been great changes. Both these do away with a large number of laborers. Now labor is a commodity, and if there is a surplus of labor the tendency is downward. Machinery does the work of 700,000,000 of people by the old method of hand work in England, and of 50,000,000 in Massachusetts."

"And machinery is going more and more to displace labor. The linotype machines in newspaper offices are displacing 80 per cent of the compositors. In unloading a ship of coal the steel shovel, making three journeys per minute, unloads 2,240 lbs. each minute. Now 12 men are employed instead of 40. With the steam riveter 6 men do the work of 30."

"These things are going to touch your lives, and if the present capitalist system remains, it will have a terrible significance for yourselves and your children."

"Inevitably wages are going down until they reach the lowest point of subsistence, and even then there will be no work for you."

"Our congressmen and senators are aghast at the growth of trusts. And yet all this was foretold by socialists, as long ago as Fourier, who said the present system would result in industrial feudalism; so did Marx predict the future serfdom. Men who compete in business find it don't pay, unless they hire help at the lowest market price, as a rule, and the strong crush out the weak. The trust is a labor saving device, as much as is machinery. Two sets of bookkeepers can do the work of several corporations when they are combined in a trust. Two or three sets of laboring men can do the work of a dozen sets, when the trust is formed. The remainder of the workers go to the market place to swell the surplus of labor."

"In January, 1898, the total capitalization of trusts is said to have been four billions of dollars. In January, 1899, the number of trusts had increased 50 per cent, and the capitalization 76 per cent. There is no question but that now they have increased 100 per cent since January, 1898, or a total of eight billions of dollars. Add to this nine billions of dollars for the railroads and the telegraph and telephone companies, and the total will be twenty billions."

"Now if the wealth of this country is sixty billions, over one-third of it is held to-day in combination. And still the tendency goes on."

"This means the constant lowering of wages."

"Besides all this the still worse feature is that women are displacing men. Their delicate hands can manipulate some machinery fully as well as those of men, and the brother or husband is displaced. And yet some people have absurdly said that socialism breaks up the home, with the man staying now at home to tend the children in many cases, and the mother at work in the mill. Then again children are driving out the father and mother, and we have seen in factories in many places, when they should be in school, cultivating their minds and moral natures. All this because the tendency is to pay the lowest wages."

"As a result, then, of the present system, the larger share of wealth has come into a few hands. One per cent of the people own now 50 per cent of the entire wealth of this country."

The Congress of 1900

The following extract from the report of the committee of arrangements for the International Congress of 1900 is taken from Le Petite Republique:

"The five organizations belonging to the preliminary committee having recently unanimously subscribed to the resolutions of the Brussels conference and accepted the conditions of the convocation of the congress of 1900, becomes in consequence the organization committee of the International Congress, and wishes to bring to your knowledge the series of propositions which constitute the provisional order of the congress, and which follow herewith:

"1. Execution of the decisions of the International Congress. Examination and application of practical means to secure international organization and action among laborers and socialists."

"2. International labor legislation regarding the limitation of the hours of work. Discussion of the possibility of a minimum wage in the various countries."

"3. Necessary conditions of the freedom of labor. (a) Constitution and action of the organized proletariat as a class party. (b) Political and economic expropriation of the bourgeoisie. (c) Socialization of the means of production."

"4. International peace, militarism, suppression of the standing army."

"5. Colonial politics."

"6. Organization of the maritime laborers."

"7. Struggle for universal suffrage and direct legislation by the people."

"8. Communal Socialism."

"9. Conquest of the public powers and alliances with bourgeois parties."

"10. The 1st of May."

"11. The trusts."

"The revolutionary Socialist Labor party has proposed to several nations the following amendment, which, having been accepted by six nations out of eleven, is added to the order of the day: 'Does not the increasing movement of the concentration of capital and the resulting economic disorder, which is irreducible by any political means, render inevitable a direct conflict between labor and capital which will take the form of a universal strike?'"

Have your card inserted in the **BRANCH DIRECTORY, 25 Cents per Month.** It will help you in the work in your locality.

August Bebel, Social Democrat

On the 10th inst. the Social Democratic leader of Germany, August Bebel, member of the reichstag and author of "Woman—Past, Present and Future," brought the great debate on party tactics in the Socialist conference at Hanover, raised by the noted book of Bern-



stein, to the point of decision with a resolution declaring that the party shall remain what it is—namely, a revolutionary class party, of which the historical aim is to acquire supremacy, and that there is no reason why the party should alter either its programme, tactics or name. Auer and Vollmar, members of the reichstag, while to some extent defending Bernstein, announced their intention to support Bebel's resolution."

Bebel has been a thorn in the side of Germany's ruler since the foundation of the empire. He is one of the best debaters in the reichstag, but is especially noted for his ability as an organizer. For years he used to hurry away from the debates in the parliament to resume work at the wood-turning lathe at which he made his living. As far back as 1872 he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for high treason, his crime consisting chiefly in fighting against Bismarck and protesting against the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine. Since then he has many times been imprisoned for lese majeste."

MONEY AND AUTHORITIES

By William Bohm

III.

Is it not time that this myth of money being the regulator of prices (together with its necessary premise of intrinsic value) was relegated to its deserved rest in the lumber room of the unconditional obsolete and ridiculous? Is it not time it met the fate of such other fallacies as "The Iron Law of Wages," "Law of Rent," "Wages Fund," and "Population Theory" by such authorities as Ricardo, Mill, Malthus and Lasalle?

Both the intrinsic valueist and the fiatist has an abiding faith in this chimera. The one from the standpoint of fear, the other that of hope—illusory both! As prices of commodities are not an arbitrary matter, but depend on cost of production—that is, wages, cost of marketing, and profit, it is difficult to see how a rise can take place in the one and not in the other—the essential preliminary factors. Under normal conditions wages must rise in advance of any possible rise in the wage produced. The iron law of supply and demand under modern methods of production not only regulates the price of labor power but profit as well. The latter is as little arbitrary as the former. Surplus value does not as a whole assume the form of profit; the by far larger part is wasted in the process of marketing."

The possessors of labor power are unable to enhance its market value; aye, and the purchasers of it not only will but can not do so. How then a rise in price of the wage produced, there being an abundance? Changes in methods of production alone can effect prices in the end, whatever quantity or quality of money be in circulation."

It will be seen, then, that all the arguments of benefits or ills to labor resulting from the unlimited coinage of silver are fallacious. The fiatist who expects any such result as a rise in general prices is an intrinsic valueist in the final analysis. The law of supply and demand can not effect a non-commodity money; the value of an abstraction is not enhanced by duplication. The argument is often advanced by the silver advocates that though wages would not rise in proportion to the general advance in prices the laborer would be benefited by the larger amount of work he would receive. This stock argument certainly is the climax of absurdity. Production depends on consumption—consumption depends on wages (in a general sense)—and wages depend on production. Here we have a series of causes and effects, interchangeable as such—a "vicious circle" from which there is no escape by the proposed means. Curtail the wage of the laborer per hour (and that is the plain English of a greater rate of increase in prices of wares than in price of labor power) and you reduce his power of consumption without at the same time decreasing his production. This in time would react upon production and leave him with fewer instead of more hours of employment."

The logic of our investigation thus far brings us face to face with the conclusion that an inconvertible paper medium of exchange is a possibility not fraught with danger; but it is attended by any promise of benefit?

The gold advocate asserts that the benefits accruing to the silver mine owner from the proposed coinage of that metal is counterbalanced by loss on the part of some one else. This must remain unquestioned. To the extent of the fiat in the coin the owner of the silver would be a gainer by free gift, and the giver, the millions constituting the state, would be the loser. But through what process? Not, as is usually maintained, through the loss of purchasing power on the part of the coin, for, as we have seen, that, aside from being an utter impossibility, would necessarily be compensated in advance by enhanced wages, etc., in terms of said coin. The loss would be sustained by the collective people in their capacity of tax-paying consumers. Each individual in proportion to his consumption would bear a part of this loss."

To illustrate: Government levies taxes for the purpose of meeting the expense attendant upon the exercise of its functions. This tax finally rests upon the consumer, whatever appearance to the contrary it may possess. Now, if an inconvertible paper currency were issued for a given time equal to such expense, and applied in that channel, it is evident that taxation might cease for said time. To the extent of the issue there would be a circulating medium, to the full fiat value of which the taxpayers would be the gainers, as against the mine owners were it silver. This argument holds good against gold as well to the extent of any added value it may have by reason of its use in coinage over its commodity value were it to be demonetized. The "something from nothing" charge finds its answer here."

One other objection to a fiat currency demands an answer—the danger of repudiation. Since such a money is not convertible into an intrinsic value one it is supposed to be particularly liable to become subjected to this process. But why? Unless it came to a pass when a medium of exchange would be no longer required, in which case the loss sustained by the collective people through its destruction would exactly counterbalance the former gain, there can be no conceivable reason for such an arbitrary destruction by the people of its own useful agent. The brain capacity of a people liable to such a performance is not to be envied. But what of the national bank paper currency? What guarantee have we that it may be converted into coin except at the option of the bankers? The deposit of bonds with the treasure of the United States! And these bonds are issued on intrinsically worthless paper by the same collective people under the form of a government, or state, who cannot issue to themselves a paper exchange medium without incurring the most dreadful risks! Faugh! We have now the fiat theory carried to a logical conclusion."

What of all this from the standpoint of the socialist? Space permits the merest allusion."

It is the truth. In no way conflicts with any, even the slightest, essential of that philosophy. On the contrary, it simplifies and renders consistent the whole."

It clears the field to propaganda by the removal of a most exasperating and befuddling question, which in its appeals to material interests has long been a stumbling block."

[The End.]

WHAT IS WAR?

"What is war?" a young man said, And a strange light gleamed in his flashing eye.

"War is a game that hath heroes bred From the earliest date of our history! Who shall deny the enraptured thrill That tingles the blood when the 'Charge!' is given,

As the horseman sweeps with his swirling steel, And the foeman's stubbornest ranks are riven?"

"What is war?" Oh, 'tis a noble thing! The battle array and the strife begun— Its matchless glories let poets sing, How crowns were lost and kingdoms won!

'Tis the end of the tyrant's sway of power, Where Freedom rides on the victor's car And slavery meets with its dying hour— That is war! red, glorious war!"

"What is war?" an old man said, As he feebly raised his careworn frame. "War is a catacomb filled with dead! A horrible blot on a nation's fame!"

'Tis the wickedest curse that the world has known, With its endless trail of blood and tears; A harvest of Death, whose seed has been sown

By madmen and knaves through a thousand years! "What is war? A vampire of greed! A fiendish ghoul with a cloak of blood!"

A decimator! a villainous creed! All that is false to a nation's good! 'Tis a subterfuge for king and state To hide the work their hands did mar; The tyrant's justice! the weakling's fate! That is war! vile, murderous war!"

—H., in Reynold's Newspaper.

SAN FRANCISCO NOMINATES

Full City Ticket Chosen and an Excellent Municipal Platform Adopted

The comrades at San Francisco have given the movement throughout the country an example of what may be accomplished to advance the cause when the members of our branches set vigorously to work. They have succeeded in putting into the field a full city ticket made up of thoroughly capable men, and will from now on conduct an energetic campaign in behalf of the party."

Following is a list of the candidates: For Mayor.....A. H. Coburn For Auditor.....Emil Liess For Assessor.....H. Warnecke, Jr. For Treasurer.....Ernest Koenig For Sheriff.....George Flammar For Tax Collector.....Valentine Britton For Recorder.....John Nugent For County Clerk.....Mark Bartlett For Coroner.....Emil Bihm For Public Administrator..... Arthur R. Andre For District Attorney.....W. C. Shepard Supervisors.....Max Bloch, August Muegge

Municipal Platform

"We, the members of the Social Democratic party of San Francisco, in municipal convention assembled, reaffirm the national platform of the Social Democratic party."

"To the end that the people may obtain the benefit of the monopolization of public utilities, instead of private corporations, and to eliminate a constant source of corruption from city politics, we demand:

"Municipal ownership and operation of street railways, waterworks, ferries, lighting and heating plants. No municipal employee to be discharged for political reasons."

"Realizing that the trades union movement is the great bulwark against capitalist encroachments today, we pledge our hearty support to organized labor and demand:

"The abolition of the contract system for city work. Direct employment by the city in all branches of the municipal service, at trades union hours and wages. All supplies purchased for the city, where possible, to be the product of union labor and to bear the union label."

"Insufficient school accommodation having become a public disgrace to our city, and favoritism being rampant in the selection of teachers, we demand:

"The immediate provision of a number of schools, sufficient to accommodate all children of school age. Free school-books to be supplied. Meals to be provided where necessary, and that ability and seniority be the only qualifications for the employment and advancement of school teachers."

"The burden of national taxation falling mainly on the working class, which derives the least benefit therefrom, we demand:

"That our municipal taxation be levied mainly on the class that receives the greatest protection and most benefits from our government—to-wit, the capitalist or property-owning class."

"Owing to the development of labor-saving machinery, etc., the question of the unemployed is ever up for solution. If there be but few, it is still our duty to provide for them; if there be many, their employment becomes a crying necessity. For these reasons we demand:

"The construction of such public works, parks, boulevards, etc., as are necessary for the improvement of our city and the municipal employment of our unemployed."

"These are but a few of the demands of the Social Democratic party, a party whose avowed objects are the continual improvement of the working class, the final abolition of all class rule and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth."

Afterclap of Dreyfus Case

M. Jonnart, one of the most influential deputies in France, has written a letter pointing out what he considers is one of the greatest dangers growing out of the Dreyfus case. He declares that the clergy, in spite of the encyclicals of the pope to the contrary, are taking advantage of the excitement over the famous case to make a determined and bitter attack on the republic. What M. Jonnart most fears, however, is the reaction which will follow their attempt. Already the Radical and Socialist press is demanding the expulsion of the Jesuits and all the other religious congregations as a retaliatory measure. He greatly fears that these reprisals, once begun, will become so vindictive that no one can tell where they will end. Additional strength is lent to M. Jonnart's warning by the fact that he is himself a member of the Catholic church."

The Haverhill branch has gotten up a handsome picture containing portraits of the Social Democrats elected at Haverhill in 1898, with views of the Haverhill City Hall and Massachusetts State House. It will be sent to any part of the United States and Canada for 25 cents, or in lots at 15 cents. Address communications and remittances to William Mailly, 8 Bacon St., Haverhill, Mass.

Are you a Socialist? What are you doing for Socialism? Every Socialist should be up and doing night and day, doing something to advance the cause. What are you doing? Are you hearing your share of the burden? Your share is to get at least one new subscriber to THE HERALD every week.

AMONG THE BRANCHES

Notices of Branch Meetings inserted for 25c per month.

CALIFORNIA

Branch No. 1, San Francisco, Cal., holds its meetings every Sunday night at 8 p. m. at Temple, 117 Turk St.
Branch No. 2, Los Angeles, Cal., holds its meetings every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at the same place. Hall No. 1, 13 S. W. Ave. All communications should be directed to J. C. Winkley, Secretary, 115 Turk St., San Francisco, Cal.
Attached Social Democrats throughout California are invited to correspond with the Secretary.

COLORADO

Colorado Branch No. 1 of the Social Democratic Party, meets every Sunday eve at Woodward Hall, 1715 California St., Denver, Colo., at 8 p. m. Thos. H. Gilman, Chairman, Mrs. Ida Mercer, Secretary, 1750 Washington St.

CONNECTICUT

Branch 3 (Conn.), New Haven, meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday in the month at 222 Cedar St., at 8 p. m. Secretary Cornelius Mahoney, 165 Frank St.

ILLINOIS

Meetings of Chicago Central Committee held regularly, second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at Dr. J. H. Greer's office, 25 Dearborn St.

Branch 1 of Illinois, Chicago, meets every Wednesday evening, Thomas Kierwin, Secretary, 254 W. Wabash Ave.
Branch 2, Chicago, Ill., Bohemian, meets 2nd and 4th Saturday evenings at Nagel's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave. Secretary, Vaciav Jelinek, 438 W. 18th St.

Branch 3, Chicago, Ill., meets 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at Jos. Dundras' place, 100 W. 18th Place. Secretary, Frank Ort, 806 W. 18th St.
Branch 4, Chicago, meets every first and third Monday evenings of the month, at 209 St. Louis Ave. Secretary, Mrs. Mary Horgan, 1456 Fulton St.

Branch No. 5 Illinois meets 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at Frank Lang's, 117 W. 18th street, corner Jefferson street. Secretary, Paul Chlapacka, 47 Rubie St.

Branch 6, Chicago, Ill., meets every first and third Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at Nagel's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave., near 18th street. Albin Geisler, 126 W. 20th street.
Branch 7, Chicago, meets at Louder's Hall, corner 6th and Morgan streets, every first and third Thursday, S. L. Westline, Secretary, 6243 Center Ave.

INDIANA

Branch No. 6, Indiana, meets first Saturday evening and 3rd Sunday afternoon of each month at Reichwein's Hall, corner Market and Noble streets, Indianapolis.

MARYLAND

Branch No. 1, Maryland, meets every Sunday at 8 p. m., at Carpenter's Hall, 506 E. Baltimore street. Public invited.
Branch No. 2, Baltimore, Md., meets every Monday at 8 p. m., at 211 W. German St., Secretary, Frank Marek, 1408 N. Gay St.

MASSACHUSETTS

Branch 2, Holyoke, Mass., meets second and fourth Monday of each month at Springfield Turner Hall, Organizer, H. Schlichting, 30 James street.

Branch 3, Lynn, Mass., permanent headquarters at 2 Summer street, Market St. business meeting every Monday night at 7:30 p. m. Open house. Public invited. E. W. Timson, 23 Albany St., Fin. Sec.-Treas.

Branch No. 4, Boston, meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month for business in Cutler's Hall, Clark's Block, Cor. Main and Center streets. Secretary, Frank S. Walsh, No. 332 W. Elm Street.

Branch 15, Massachusetts-East Boston—meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 99 Chelsea St. A. L. Sweeney, 191 Webster St., Sec.

Branch 13, Chelsea, Mass., meets every Thursday at 8 p. m. at postoffice building, Chelsea. Alfred B. Outram, Sec., 72 Ash St.

Branch 18, Newburyport, meets the second Monday of each month at Lester's Hall, 28 Winter St. G. H. Evans, Treas., Prince Place.

Branch No. 9, Chelsea, Mass., permanent headquarters at 2 Postoffice Building, Open every evening. Business meetings every Thursday at 8 p. m. Public invited.

The Massachusetts State Committee meets the first Saturday of each month at 724 Washington St., Boston. All dues and monies intended for the State Committee should be sent to the financial secretary, A. McDonald, Springfield, St. Louis. All other correspondence should be addressed to the corresponding secretary, Margaret Hall, 5 Glenwood St., Roxbury.

MINNESOTA

Branch 1, Red Lake Falls, Minn., meets every other Sunday in Red Lake Falls, Red Lake Falls, Minn. Wm. H. Randall, Sec.

MISSOURI

St. Louis headquarters—Room 7, 22 No. Fourth St. Address all communications to E. Val Putnam, Secretary. For information concerning ward branches inquire at the above address.

St. Louis Central Branch, composed of all members in the city, meets every 3rd Sunday afternoon, 2:30 p. m., at Aschenbroedel Hall, 64 Market St. Lecture and general discussion at every meeting. Public invited.
Branch 7, Missouri, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at 1200 Union Ave., Kansas City. G. J. Storz, 1200 W. 9th St., Sec.

NEW YORK

Branch 10 (4th Assembly Dist., N. Y.), meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, at the rooms of The Voice of Labor, 107 Henry St. Jacob Branch, 141 E. Broadway, Org.

East Side Branch, No. 1, New York, meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 112 Clinton St. Secretary, A. Guyer, 163 Suffolk St.

Branch 3, New York (5th Assembly District), meets every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 224 E. 6th St. L. Funcke, 229 E. 5th St., Sec.

Branch No. 4, (West Side Branch) meets second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at their headquarters, 129 West 96th St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

Branch No. 12, Brooklyn, N. Y. Headquarters Social Democratic Party, 251 Rutledge St., meets every 3rd Thursday at 8:15 sharp. All persons interested in Socialism and the Social Democratic Party are invited to attend these meetings and co-operate with the organization.

Branch No. 20, New York (2d Assembly District), meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at Fuchs' Hall, 151 Second Avenue, New York City. Secretary, R. Hoppe, 223 E. 30th St.

The City Central Agitation Committee of Greater New York and vicinity meets first and third Tuesdays of every month in Witzel's Hall, 6 E. Fourth street. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

OHIO

Branch No. 2, Ohio, Cleveland, meets in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York Street, second and fourth Sundays, at 3 p. m. Lectures, discussions, business meeting, first and third Fridays at 8 p. m.

Branch No. 3, Cleveland, Ohio, meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays, at 8 p. m., in Ohlsen's Hall, No. 6 York Street. Lectures and discussions.

Golden Rule Branch, No. 4, Cincinnati, Ohio, meets at Richelle Hall, southeast corner Ninth and Plum Streets, first and third Mondays of each month, at 8 p. m. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. Secretary, Chas. D. Linsley, 333 W. Ninth St.

Branch 8, Cincinnati, meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday, in Workingmen's Hall, 118 Walnut St. Secretary, J. L. Franz, 1314 Walnut St.

PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 2, Erie, Pa., meets every Saturday afternoon at K. of L. Hall, 716 State Street. Chairman, Chas. Heydrick; Secretary, Geo. B. Laird, 225 W. 5th St.

Branch No. 1, Philadelphia, Pa., meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m., Funk Hall, South 24th and Josephine Sts. President, W. Bohm, 244 Addison St. Secretary, J. H. Lewis, 215 Jane St.

Branch No. 5 (Jewish) of Pennsylvania, meets every Friday at 614 South Third Street, Philadelphia, at 7:30. Discussion from 8 to 9. J. Gearson, Secretary.

WISCONSIN

Branch No. 1, Milwaukee, meets every second and fourth Tuesday evening of the month at the Ethical Society Building, 558 Jefferson St. Visitors always welcome. Howard Tuttle, chairman; Eugene H. Rooney, Secretary.

Branch No. 2, Milwaukee, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Geatke's Hall, corner Green Bay and Concordia Ave.

Branch 1, Sheboygan, Wis., meets every fourth Thursday in the month at Gustav Burkhardt's Hall on Pennsylvania Avenue. R. Schoen, 8 1/2th Street, secretary-treasurer.
Branch No. 4, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Friday each month at Mueller's Hall,

corner Twenty-third and Brown Streets. George Moerschel, Secretary, 715 Twenty-fifth Street.
Branch 9, Milwaukee, meets every fourth Friday of the month at R. Sigel's Hall, S. E. corner Orchard Street and 9th Avenue. Secretary, Fred Brockhausen, 781 Windlake Avenue.
Branch No. 11, Milwaukee, Wis., meets the second Wednesday of each month at the office of the Wisconsin "Vorwärts," 614 State St.
Branch 12, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Thursday of each month at Peterlus Hall, 717 Center Street, at 8 p. m. John Koepfer, Secretary.
Milwaukee Central Committee of the Social Democratic Party of America meets on the first Monday of each month at 8 p. m. sharp at No. 618 East Water Street. Eugene H. Rooney, Secretary; John Doerfler, Treasurer.

New Branches

While the political activity of the S. D. P. has been most pronounced in the East and for a time the new branches instituted were mostly in eastern states, the West has of late been giving signs of an awakening, and following the example of California, is making a distinct advance in organization. Three new branches were started during the week just past at Gates, Ore.; Poplar Bluff, Mo., and Delta, Col. The membership of these branches is of a quality to insure permanency and effective work. The party is on the eve of a great advance in old Missouri.

Bohemian Paper

The Bohemian branches of Chicago, at a meeting held Sept. 29, took the initiatory steps for the publication of a Bohemian weekly paper. To raise the necessary funds it was decided to issue 2,000 bonds of \$1 each. All sections of the party will be appealed to for aid in this laudable undertaking. All who are interested, and we hope they will be many, should address, for further information, Ferdinand Svoboda, 694 West Eighteenth street, Chicago.

Our Bohemian comrades are also taking steps to organize a branch in the vicinity of the stockyards.

Milwaukee to the Front

Milwaukee comes to the front with a first shot for the headquarters fund, proud to head the "Roll of Honor." At the central committee Monday night, Oct. 2, Comrade Berger explained the matter to the members present, and the response was prompt and showed the kind of metal our boys are made of. On motion \$25 outright was given to the agitation fund and the following comrades pledged themselves for a dollar each month for a year, Comrades Rooney and Tuttle paying two months' in advance and the rest making the first payment:

Victor L. Berger, E. H. Rooney, Edward Ziegler, John Doerfler, George Baumann, Louis A. Arnold, Robert Meister, C. Hennmann, Howard Tuttle, Frederic Heath.

Thomas C. P. Myers gave \$1 toward the agitation fund. These are simply the pledges of those who were at the meeting. It does not represent all that Milwaukee will present.

Frederick Heath has returned from a trip to Girard, Kas. He reports a pleasant visit with the editor of the Appeal to Reason.

Barr's Resolution

Comrade A. W. Barr of Worcester, Mass., introduced the following resolution at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor:

"Whereas, The exploiters of the laboring class seek at every opportunity to intrude their position and add to their power by controlling the legislative, executive and judicial branches of our government; and,

"Whereas, By reason of such control they are enabled to, and do, defeat nearly all attempts to institute or execute laws favorable to our class; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we recommend to the members of this and affiliated bodies that they engage actively in a united effort to secure the nomination and election of men from their own class to the various elective offices; and,

"Whereas, The laboring class is at present in a measure dependent upon the employing class, mainly through the private ownership of the machinery of industry and the operation thereof for private gain; and,

"Whereas, Through the concentration of capital and the development of machinery, individual ownership by the workers is no longer possible; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we advocate the collective ownership of the means of production as a necessary measure to insure stability of employment and to secure to the workers a just remuneration and the best attainable conditions."

Milwaukee's Example

When it comes to setting the pace for the rest of the strongholds Milwaukee will be found "strictly in it," as the expression goes. Along with the local comrades' local activity, which has always been most earnest and tireless, there has also been a praiseworthy loyalty toward the national organization, for it has been realized how important the general movement is to the whole country. Other communities may have been selfish, but not so with Milwaukee. Its branches have taken a pride in remitting

dues promptly and the members have contributed liberally to the general agitation fund. Every movement more or less attracts people who desire to help themselves rather than to help the movement, but Milwaukee has been singularly free from such creatures. During the past year many of the local comrades have been contributing \$1 each month to the local agitation fund; the branches and the members individually have given Wayland's editorial fund numerous lifts, and yet in spite of all this, and other things I have not mentioned, when Comrade Berger at the last central committee meeting explained that help was needed at the national headquarters and that a fund would have to be started for reasons that need not be stated here, the war horses present told the line without hesitation. They realized the nature of the fight they were in and were ready to make additional sacrifices. First a motion went through with a whoop to donate \$25 from the local fund to the national agitation fund. Then the special national fund was started by the following comrades pledging themselves to pay \$1 a month for one year, as follows:

Victor L. Berger \$1.00
E. H. Rooney 1.00
Edward Ziegler 1.00
John Doerfler 1.00
George Bauman 1.00
Louis A. Arnold 1.00
Robert Meister 1.00
C. Hennmann 1.00
Howard Tuttle 1.00
Frederic Heath 1.00

Thomas C. P. Myers \$1 to the national agitation fund. Messrs. Rooney and Tuttle paid for two months in advance, the others making their first month's payment. The above, of course, represented only those able to pay who happened to be at that meeting. We expect to have twenty pledges.

Wanted

The Milwaukee central committee desires the services of an experienced organizer for work in the state of Wisconsin. The committee will furnish railway fare. Applicant will please state experience, languages spoken, compensation expected. Address the secretary, Eugene H. Rooney, 938 Bartlett street, Milwaukee, Wis.

The last meeting of the Milwaukee central committee was very largely attended and very enthusiastic. The committee is about to set an organizer to work in the towns of the state, as sufficient funds have been collected to warrant it. The committee voted \$25 to the national propaganda fund, and a pledge was circulated among the members to contribute a dollar a month for a year to the fund, and a goodly number promised to do so. There is every reason to believe that the coming year will be one of great development for the party in this state.

Eugene H. Rooney.

Ohio State Union

Ohio is getting into line—slowly, but we trust surely. On July 30, 1899, a delegation of comrades from Branches Nos. 2 and 3 of Cleveland paid a visit to Branch No. 1 of this city, where the matter of forming a state union was thoroughly gone over. The state being so large and the locals organized being so widely separated, it was thought to be impossible to secure a state organization through so costly a method as a delegate convention, followed as it would necessarily be by others in the not distant future. At the solicitation of the comrades from Cleveland, Branch No. 1 agreed to assume the responsibility of selecting an executive board to serve for a provisional state union, providing a majority of the local branches in the state approved the plan; and further, that the undersigned would do the necessary correspondence.

Under date of Aug. 1, 1899, a circular letter was sent to all branches in the state to addresses furnished by the national secretary, Comrade Theodore Debs. With two exceptions, all branches responding approved the plan for a provisional state union. On Sept. 4, 1899, another circular letter was sent out accompanied by blank reports to be filled out and returned. A majority of the working branches having complied, Branch No. 1 at its meeting on Sunday, Oct. 1, 1899, selected a state executive board of five members—a potter, bricklayer, printer, glassware-packer and a laborer, who met on Saturday evening, Oct. 7, 1899, and organized, the writer being selected as secretary-treasurer.

A circular letter was mailed Oct. 10 to all branches who had sent in report, giving address of all members of the board, together with financial statement and other information, which will be sent to other branches sending in report blank properly filled out and signed.

Is your branch working, comrade? If so, has it reported? Look the matter up without delay.

We will not be able to do much in the heat of the present campaign of bosses and boodles, but we can prepare to do active work this winter, and we want the assistance of every Social Democrat in the state. Let us hear from every reader of the Herald in Ohio who is willing to do something for international Socialism.

Charles R. Martin,
Tiffin, Ohio. Secretary-Treasurer.

NEW YORK COMRADES STRAIGHTEN OUT MATTERS

To make our position plain to all, and so as to clear away any misunderstandings which may exist, the following statements have been published in several New York papers, as well as being submitted to the Independent Labor party:

The Social Democratic party of Greater New York at their last joint meeting appointed a committee to explain to your body their reasons for withdrawing from their co-operation with the Independent Labor party. We therefore submit the following statements:

"We consider it unnecessary to rehearse the principles of the Social Democratic party in relation to organized labor. It is well known that its attitude toward labor unions has always been of the most friendly character, and that while we have carefully guarded against any attempt to capture the unions or to use them for our own political purposes, we have always advised the workingmen as a class to combine at the polls as well as in the unions, in order to obtain complete economic freedom. When, therefore, organized labor united to form the Independent Labor party, the Social Democratic party could not but feel a deep interest in its welfare, and regarded it with fraternal sympathy, and when it adopted a Socialist platform substantially the same as our own, we willingly accepted your invitation to co-operate with it in the present campaign. But today the situation is radically different. By admitting delegates from the Chicago platform Democrats the Independent Labor party has ceased to be an independent workingmen's party, and has, it seems to us, acted inconsistently with its own platform, which repudiates all co-operation with the two dominant political parties. It has thus become the ally of a capitalistic party, and we therefore as Socialists cannot conscientiously continue to co-operate with it. We believe, moreover, that our co-operation would do no real good to the workingmen's cause; and we deeply fear that the present attitude of the Independent Labor party may be a hindrance rather than a help to organized labor, and may introduce an element of discord into the labor unions. Accordingly there seems to be no reason why we should continue to co-operate, while there is every reason against it.

"The Social Democratic party has therefore determined to withdraw its delegates from the conference and sever its connection with the Independent Labor party. We will not, however, oppose our candidates to yours in the ensuing election.

"Although we withdraw entirely from this campaign, in all cases wherein the Independent Labor party will nominate bona fide workingmen of strictly Socialist principles we shall recommend our members to support them.

"We believe that you will appreciate our motives, and understand that this is the only course consistent with our principles as Socialists.

M. Winchevsky S. Ingerman
William Butscher J. Allman
E. H. Thomas George Finger
(ex-officio) Committee.

CLASSES VS. PARTIES

By Nemo

Once more have the seasons run their course, the leaves and flowers have come and gone, and we are now approaching that significant date in November: Election Day. Again shall we see the booth erected in every ward, again shall our mail swell daily in size, with letters of good advice from every party and faction; again shall our ears be tickled with the harmonious sound of the election band, and again shall we be treated to every description of demonstration and pageantry. A new dignity comes over us; we are going to exercise our right to rule ourselves, as free and independent citizens of the United States. Our evenings shall be spent on the street corners, listening to the orators of parties galore, and all our leisure time will be consumed in endless discussion of the one great absorbing topic: the fall election. What is the cause of so much excitement? why are we all so eager to take part in these momentous proceedings? Because it is our duty to elect and maintain the government, answers the American citizen. Very well, my friend, but why is it our duty to elect and maintain the government? To begin with, why do we need a government? You answer, "that government is instituted in order to protect the interests of the governed." That is possible, but why do these interests require protection? are not the interests of all the people identical? "Of course not," answers my citizen friend. "There are rich and poor, whose interests are opposed, and we need laws to keep the one from infringing upon the rights of the other."

Here we have the point. It takes very little discussion to bring out the fact that this nation is composed of classes with conflicting interests, not of individuals on a footing of equality.

Let us examine the subject a little closer and attempt to discover which are the component parts of this great American nation, this young and mighty race, whose destiny we hope is to lead hu-

manity to the conquest of freedom and peace.

Like all countries in which modern industry has developed, its population is divided into three great classes: the capitalist class, which owns the machinery of production and the natural resources of the land; the middle class, or small capitalist class, which is rapidly disappearing, and wage-working class or proletariat, which lives by selling its labor power. We find that these classes have interests diametrically opposed to each other. The great capitalists find their advantage in combining their industries into trusts, which enables them to crush their competitors and which puts the public at their mercy. These trusts antagonize the interests of the middle class by abolishing competition. The interest of the workers wars with both of these two classes, who are their employers. It is the worker's interest to obtain as much as he can for his labor, while it behooves his employer to give as little as will be accepted.

The interests of the classes being different, how can government represent the interest of all the people? Does it then stand for the interest of one particular class? Let us investigate. All workers know that it is their interest to receive as high wages as possible for the smallest amount of labor time. Has our government ever furthered the workers' interest in this direction? Has it ever forced the employer to raise wages or to shorten the working day? It is the interest of the workers in great cities to have clean and wholesome dwellings. Has the government ever tried to abolish the slums of New York and Chicago? It is the interest of our laborers to be educated and to receive the blessings of refinement and civilization. Has government opened museums, theaters or auditoriums for the working class? Has it given our children an opportunity to develop their powers of mind and heart? Alas, what a chain of negatives must follow all these queries! It may be argued that schools, museums, libraries and playgrounds have indeed been opened to "the public," but we have only to enter one of these "public places" to see how vain is the assumption that they benefit the working class. There we see well-dressed people, who manifestly belong for the most part to the so-called upper classes. Mr. Middleclass impatiently exclaims: "But these opportunities of study and enjoyment are free, why do not the workers profit by them?" Come with me, my friend; visit the care-harassed home of your brother man; see his worn face, gaze upon his bowed frame, spent and exhausted by the long hours of labor. Gaze upon him, upon his soulless surroundings, upon his crowded and noisy abode, and tell me if that brain is even capable of dwelling on aught but present misery; if those feet may seek aught but the road to forgetfulness.

The greatest crime of our modern system of industrial injustice is not to have debased the bodies of the workers, but to have murdered their souls. This is the great evil of today, and government thus far has done little to right it.

If government, therefore, does not represent the interests of labor, does it represent those of the other extreme of society, the capitalist class? Let us again investigate.

Does our government further, or allow, the combination of capital into trusts, who rob the people and crush the workers? Does our government seek to extend the market for capitalist wares by securing colonies? Does our government maintain a strong police force to protect "the sacred rights of property"? Does our government equip troops to force other nations to respect the trading interests of "our great commercial concerns"? Does our government ever send out these troops to shoot down the rebellious wage-slaves who dare to resist their capitalist employers?

Answer, Homestead, Hazleton, Coeur d'Alene! Answer, ye thousands of men walking the highways of this beautiful land! Answer, if you can, ye poor murdered soldiers on the plains of Santiago and Manila! All ye workers of this great republic, answer and tell us which class does our government represent?

(Concluded Next Week)

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